

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Bob Dowsett, Alan Peterson and Dick Schodde for their comments.

References:

- Baptista, L. F., Trail, P. W. & Horblit, H. M. 1997. Family Columbidae (pigeons and doves). Pp. 60–245 in del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A. & Sargatal, J. (eds.) *Handbook of the birds of the world*, vol. 4. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona.
- Dickinson, E. C. (ed.) 2003. *The Howard and Moore complete checklist of the birds of the world*. Third edn. Christopher Helm, London.
- International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN). 1999. *International code of zoological nomenclature*. Fourth edn. International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature, c/o The Natural History Museum, London.
- Johnson, K. P. & Clayton, D. H. 2000. Nuclear and mitochondrial genes contain similar phylogenetic signal for pigeons and doves (Aves: Columbiformes). *Mol. Phyl. & Evol.* 14: 141–151.
- Morel, G. J., Morel, M. Y. & Fry, C. H. 1986. Columbidae, pigeons and doves. Pp. 442–497 in Urban, E. K., Fry, C. H. & Keith, S. (eds.) *The birds of Africa*, vol. 2. Academic Press, London.

Address: 86 Bingley Crescent, Fraser, A.C.T., Australia, e-mail: jpenhall@bigpond.net.au

© British Ornithologists' Club 2010

The authorship of the name *Lophornis Verreauxii*; that of a subspecies of Festive Coquette

by Edward C. Dickinson

Received 31 March 2010

There has been justifiable confusion regarding the authorship of the name of this hummingbird. Described on p. 193 of the 1853 *Revue et Magasin de Zoologie* (hereafter *Revue*), the name appeared as *Lophornis Verreauxii*, Bourc., par MM. Jules et Ed. Verreaux. Peters (1945: 32) ascribed the name to 'Bourcier and E. Verreaux'. Zimmer (1950: 17) ascribed the name to 'J. and E. Verreaux'. Zimmer wrote: 'The paper comprising the original description was undoubtedly written by Jules and Edouard Verreaux, although they cite Bourcier as authority for the name, probably from the label of the type. They appear as authors of the paper also in the list of contents at the end of the number of the *Revue* in which it appeared, but in the index to the entire volume Bourcier is given as the author of the paper and the name. In Mulsant and Verreaux's "Histoire naturelle des oiseaux-mouches" (vol. 3, p. 221) Boucier is cited as authority for the name, but on page 229, in a bibliography of papers by J. and E. Verreaux, the title of the original article again appears. Although there is no doubt that Bourcier planned to honor Edouard Verreaux by naming this bird for him, I see no way he can be credited even as part author since he had no connection with the original publication.' Zimmer's attribution was understandably retained by Züchner (1999: 568).

Zimmer was a remarkably accurate bibliographer; he may have missed the vital evidence which explains why the index to that volume of the *Revue* listed Bourcier as the author, or he may have judged that the rules of nomenclature then in use did not demand acceptance of Bourcier. The new name appeared in the May issue. In the June issue the final page, p. 288, included two errata and below them the following note: 'MM. J et Ed. Verreaux nous demandent de rectifier une erreur qui a été commise en imprimant leurs noms à la suite de celui de M. Bourcier. C'est à M. Bourcier seul qu'est due la description du *Lophornis Verreauxii*, page 193, pl. 6'.

Despite the real possibility that Zimmer's presumption of authorship was correct, and that the Verreauxs may have penned the description, there is little doubt that the connection between Bourcier's citation as author of the name in the original description, and the publisher's correction made at the behest of the Verreauxs in the very next issue of the *Revue*, makes it clear that Bourcier is the author under Art. 50.1.1 of the *International code of zoological nomenclature* (ICZN 1999).

Acknowledgements

Thanks go to Judith Magee and others at the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, London, for arranging to make the full set of the *Revue* available to me for a study of its dates of publication, and to Alan Peterson and Richard Schodde for reading a draft of this paper and offering helpful suggestions.

References:

- International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN). 1999. *International code of zoological nomenclature*. Fourth edn. International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature, c/o The Natural History Museum, London.
- Peters, J. L. 1945. *Check-list of birds of the world*, vol. 5. Harvard Univ. Press, Cambridge, MA.
- Zimmer, J. T. 1950. Studies of Peruvian birds. No. 57. The genera *Colibri*, *Anthracothonax*, *Klais*, *Lophornis*, and *Chlorestes*. *Amer. Mus. Novit.* 1463: 1–28.
- Züchner, T. 1999. Species account: Festive Coquette *Lophornis chalybeus*. P. 568 in del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A. & Sargatal, J. (eds.) *Handbook of the birds of the world*, vol. 5. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona.

Address: Flat 3, Bolsover Court, 19 Bolsover Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN20 7JG, UK, e-mail: edward@asiaorn.org

© British Ornithologists' Club 2010